**Use of synthetic milk by Nestle**

2278. SHRI K.R. MALKANI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Nestle is using synthetic milk, urea and caustic soda to make its baby food as per the news-item of the Times of India, dated 10th August, 1995; and

(b) if so, the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) As per the information received from the Government of Punjab, no sample of milk products of Nestle life for testing was found to contain syntheic milk, urea, caustic soda or any other harmful ingredient.

(b) Does not arise.

**Rise of Malaria in Maharashtra**

2279. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Maharashtra is amongst the worst malaria prone states in the country;

(b) if so, what are the details of the total positive cases of malaria that occurred in the state during the last three years, year-wise and district-wise;

(c) how many deaths were reported in the state during the said period;

(d) whether it is a fact that P Falci perum cases are rising alarmingly in the state; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and what steps are being taken by Government to control and eradicate malaria in Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The total number of positive cases and deaths due to Malaria, district-wise during 1993, 1994 and 1995 in Maharashtra is given at the annexure. [See Appendix 178, Annexure No. 51]

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The number of P. Falciperum cases in the State of Maharashtra during 1993, 1994 and 1995 were as under:

| Year | P. Falciperum |
|---|---|
| 1993 | 67,867 |
| 1994 | 1,03,616 |
| 1995 | 1,31,602 |

The steps taken to control and eradicate Malaria in the State of Maharashtra include:—

- — early detection and prompt treatment of malaria cases;
- — vector control through effective use of insecticides to interrupt transmission;
- — anti-larval measures to eliminate mosquitoes breeding through source reduction and application of larvicides and adoption of bio-environmental approaches;
- — intensification of Health education activities to create public awareness and participation in anti-Malaria programme;
- — community involvement in Malaria Control activities;
- — implementation of the revised Drug Policy as per the recommendations of the Expert Committee for High Risk areas;
- — A Malaria Control Project to intensify the activities in the tribal areas in the State with external assistance is currently under formulation
- — New Generation insecticides viz. synthetic pyreth-roids have also been supplied by Govt. of India in the year 1996 to be used selectively in triple resistant areas.
- — Biocides have also been supplied to Maharashtra in 1996 to be used in urban areas on a pilot basis.

**Formation of groups to look into product development by Air India and Indian Airlines**

2280. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air India and Indian Airlines

have formed any groups to look into product development, suggest ways to improve airline service at the counters/airport/air punctuality etc.;

(b) if so, by when these groups are likely to submit their reports to Government;

(c) whether Government are also aware of the shortage of pilots/co-pilots as candidates available in the country prefer to work with foreign airlines; and

(d) if so, what action Government have taken to fill up the gap between demand and poor availability of pilots in the country?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. These are in-house Committees and their reports are not required to be submitted to the Government.

(c) and (d) At present there are sufficient number of professional pilot licence holders available in the country for employment as co-pilots. However, there is shortage of Commanders. Indian Airlines have commenced an accelerated time bound training programme to overcome the shortage of Commanders.

**Unutilised financial assistance received from World Bank and ADB**

2281. SHRI S. MUTHU MANI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) declined/threatened not to extend fresh financial assistance to India due to non-utilisation of funds already sanctioned by the above funding agencies;

(b) whether it is also a fact that as on 31st March, 1996 an amount of Rs. 57,000/- crore stands unutilised;

(c) what are the reasons for non-utilisation of funds already sanctioned by the said funding agencies; and

(d) the actions taken by Government to execute projects with the fund already sanctioned by the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank (ADB).

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The unutilised external assistance on Government and Non-Government account as on 31.3.96 is Rs. 61,477,30 crore (Provisional).

(c) and (d) Foreign assistance is largely project tied and therefore, the utilisation of the sanctioned aid for any project is spread over the project implementation period. As a result, there would be undrawn aid balance at any point of time reflecting aid in pipeline, which will be absorbed as project implementation takes place. At present, World Bank and Asian Development Bank adided projects are in varying stages of implementation.

However, slower than expected utilisation of external assistance are due to funds constraints, procurement and contracting delays, delays in land acquisition and other project specific issues. Ensuring adequate provisioning for externally aided projects, release of ACA as 100% additionality, advance release of ACA to the States, standardisation of bidding documents and streamlining of procurement procedures, disintermediating on flow of external aid to Central PSUs, Portfolio Rationalisation and setting up of Project Management Unit in Department of Economic Affairs are some of the steps taken by the Government to improve aid utilisation.

**Commissioning of All India Radio, Visakhapatnam**

2282 SHRI SATYANARAYANA DRONAMRAJU: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal to commission Commercial Services of All India Radio, Visakhapatnam, which was promised during 1993-94 by the Government, was kept under cold storage;

(b) if not, the details thereof, and by when it is likely to be commissioned; and

(c) what is the estimated cost of the project?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) to (c) No, Sir. A 10 KW FM Transmitter with additional playback studio facility is being established at Visakhapatnam for introduction of a Commercial Channel at an estimated cost